

FORWARD



Number 3.

XXXXXXXXXXXX
A L B I O N
XXXXXXXXXXXX

August 24th 1969.

ALBION is a journal of postal Diplomacy, edited and published by Don Turnbull, 6 St. George's Avenue, Timperley, Cheshire, England.

The subscription rate to players participating in ALBION games is announced at the start of such games. To all others, the present subscription is 6d. per issue, including postage within the British Isles and Ireland. Overseas subscription currently available by all-for-all trade only: for special non-trade rates apply to the editor.

ALBION records the progress of postal Diplomacy games taking place within the British region of AHIKS, or within the area covered by the British region, AHIKS membership apart.

Diplomacy is a game manufactured and sold by Games Research Inc., 48 Wareham Street, Boston, Mass. 02118, U.S.A. For availability within the British Isles consult the editor.

Cover by George Forster.

XX

Issue number 3 of ALBION comes to you with all its usual aplomb, whatever that is. It is packed from cover to cover with items of no interest whatsoever.

Many comments on the first two issues have been received from all corners of the spherical globe; the few printable ones are reproduced for your edification and enlightenment elsewhere.

In addition, in defiance of the howls of derision emanating principally from north of the border, we continue the remarkable saga of Hypertweedle. It will, however, be with great joy that you discover that this saga is finite (uncomfortably so for the poor bloke who has to write it). Hypertweedle will, by default if nothing else, disappear in the near future from the pages of ALBION; we hope that this will represent a temporary loss.

Would you mind repeating that?????

Changes in editorial policy continue to spring up. The size of the ALBION overseas postage bill dictates that we commence to write on both sides of the paper, although we will not, as yet, attempt to do this at the same time. In addition, and in particular for those readers who read nothing but the game report and press releases, but whose masochistic traits force them to plough through the earlier rubbish without missing a word, the game report is printed on a different coloured paper to assist identification.

O TITMORA O MORES.

(Translation: Goal-less draw; 2 points on the coupon; 9 players ordered off, the remaining 13 killed by 'supporters').

New Trades and Subscribers.

Add to the ALBION trades list:-

DIPLOMANIA and DIPLOPHOBIA published by Don L. Miller, 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Maryland 20906, U.S.A.

A brief report on these new additions will appear in a future issue of ALBION.

There are no new subscribers.....Well, at least no-one has resigned.....yet.....

Comments on ALBION.

The following comments have been received at the ALBION editorial offices. Also - an announcement - would the kind gentleman who called yesterday, but was unfortunately unable to speak to the editor in person, please apply to the caretaker, when his horsewhip will be returned undamaged.

In a letter from Bob Johnson:- "ALBION is beautiful.....and I feel slightly tizzied.....Harvey's Bristol Cream.....". Hm.

From Michael Nethercot:- "I thoroughly enjoyed reading ALBION. However my newsagent is a shade reticent about ordering it in bulk". In fact, ALBION is far better than the TIMES - the ice-cream keeps cold for much longer.

From an anonymous player:- "Any more of this rubbish about Hyperspace etc., and my next move will be A-ALBION Offices, F supports".

From Ray Evans:- "Why has the front cover got an American helmet, not a British?". Well, I have to sell the thing somewhere.....

From Harold Wilson:- "It is a.....er.....a very....er.....hum."

From the Postmaster General:- "Call that printed matter??".

From 547 readers:- "The nude page was a trifle disappointing; brush it up next time please". We do our best, but there is enough of the permissive society in the press releases.

From Arte Johnson:- "Very interesting".

Glad to know we are appreciated, folks.

A Social Comment.

Is it not strange, fellow radicals, how sex - perhaps the most fundamental of human appetites - is singled out for harsh and illogical treatment by Society, even in this so-called permissive age? It is amusing to reflect on a social organisation in which another of our appetites was surrounded by that aura of guilt which currently surrounds the sexual urge. Imagine a film which was cut since the hero, the filthy and perverted swine, is at one point seen eating egg and chips!!

DIPLOMACY MAGAZINE REVIEW.

NUMBER ONE - EREHWON

Published by:- Pandemonium Publications, who also publish ATLANTIS, BLEFESCU and LOMOKOME. *

Edited by:- Rod Walker, 4309 Adams Avenue, San Diego, California 92116, U.S.A. (Temporary).

Subscription:- 10 issues for 3 dollars.

Average length:- 22 pages (discounting the April Fool issues, which seem to terminate abruptly round about page 3 $\frac{1}{2}$).

Game contents.

Some ten games are currently reported in EREHWON which, together with the associated press releases etc. take up about 8 of the pages. The games are all 'regular' - the Diplomacy variants organised by Rod appearing in his other magazines. Two game reports carry analyses of the moves by Allan B. Calhmer, which are really worth reading, particularly for the novice player (the ALBION editor, e.g.).

Other contents.

A wide variety of articles etc. Some are Diplomacy-related, but the majority satirize things political and social. As the editorial from vol.III no.10 states:- 'Players and readers are hereby served notice that the forte of this 'zine is satire. It is our intention to step on as many toes as possible. If yours are included....well, if rape is inevitable, relax and enjoy it'. (This passage quoted without permission).

Rod pulls no punches in living up to this avowed purpose, and the result is a very entertaining magazine, well worth anyone's money. Among recent articles of note are:-

The Chronicles of req-lav (a regular feature, consisting of extracts from the books of lyn-Dunn the Rich and nyk-Sunn the Twice-Scorned, and featuring other characters such as Yqe the Bald and Dykk the Sneaky).

Walker in Koningsburg, a really hilarious account of a recent Diplomacy convention at the home of John Koning.

Why Rectabular Excursions Won't Transmogrify, including some useful instructions on the mounting of a Trichotometric Indicator Support.

History of Poderkagg. Poderkagg is a fictitious (I hope) country with an awful lot of history. It is very near Hernia, a useful piece of information for the travel-fiend.

EREHWON must surely rate in the 'top few' Diplomacy magazines, and the ALBION staff thoroughly recommend it. Rod will, unfortunately, not be printing again until October (although the games are being continued in another magazine); however the wait is worth while.

* Sorry - also UTOPIA and ZOTHIQUE.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,

It is with deep regret that I note the historical nonsense being published in your magazine.

As Professor of Latin History at the University of Copcapanc I have made a life study of the lineage of the Royal House of Vienna. My researches prove beyond question that this line can be traced to the Inca civilisation.

I would refer you to the inscriptions on the great sun temple at Bar-Cop-Dri-Vel: '@*£ 908444- $\frac{3}{4}$ ', which translated means 'In the year of the fish he took a boat, and having sailed for 6789 $\frac{3}{4}$ quarks entered that river called Danub' (Danube).

Thereafter it is only a matter of visiting the village of Smrink in Livonia to read the stirring saga of the founding of the first Austro-Hungarian dynasty by Chir-Kransk; every schoolboy knows that Chir-Kransk was the great-grandfather of Remus.

Yours etc.,

Kranko-Kornkap (Prof.)

Dear Sir,

We were delighted to read your excellent article concerning dimensional quadrature. We thought your little drawings were most beautiful and the arrows a delight.

We are, however, most concerned about the fate of Hypertweedle and his captors. We would hate to think that the King might do something rash in a fit of temper - can we be assured that this will not happen?

The whole question of infinite dimensions seems to have been swept under the cubic carpet during recent years. We well remember a time when fervent discussion, even controversy, shook the very foundations of our institute about the possibility that a large number of dimensions had crept into the finite universe. I think your most timely intrusion into the sphere is to be welcomed.

But we must advise you of the very great dangers involved in carrying on with additional experimental work. Your promise to include a 2-dimensional version of a 4-dimensional object could bring great distress to your household.

We once heard of a case where such a drawing suddenly decided to turn itself into a 4-dimensional solid dimulation. It could not, of course, exist in this universe for more than a micro-second, but its departure blew a ten-foot hole in the wall and destroyed our most experienced experimental team. May we please ask you to take due care.

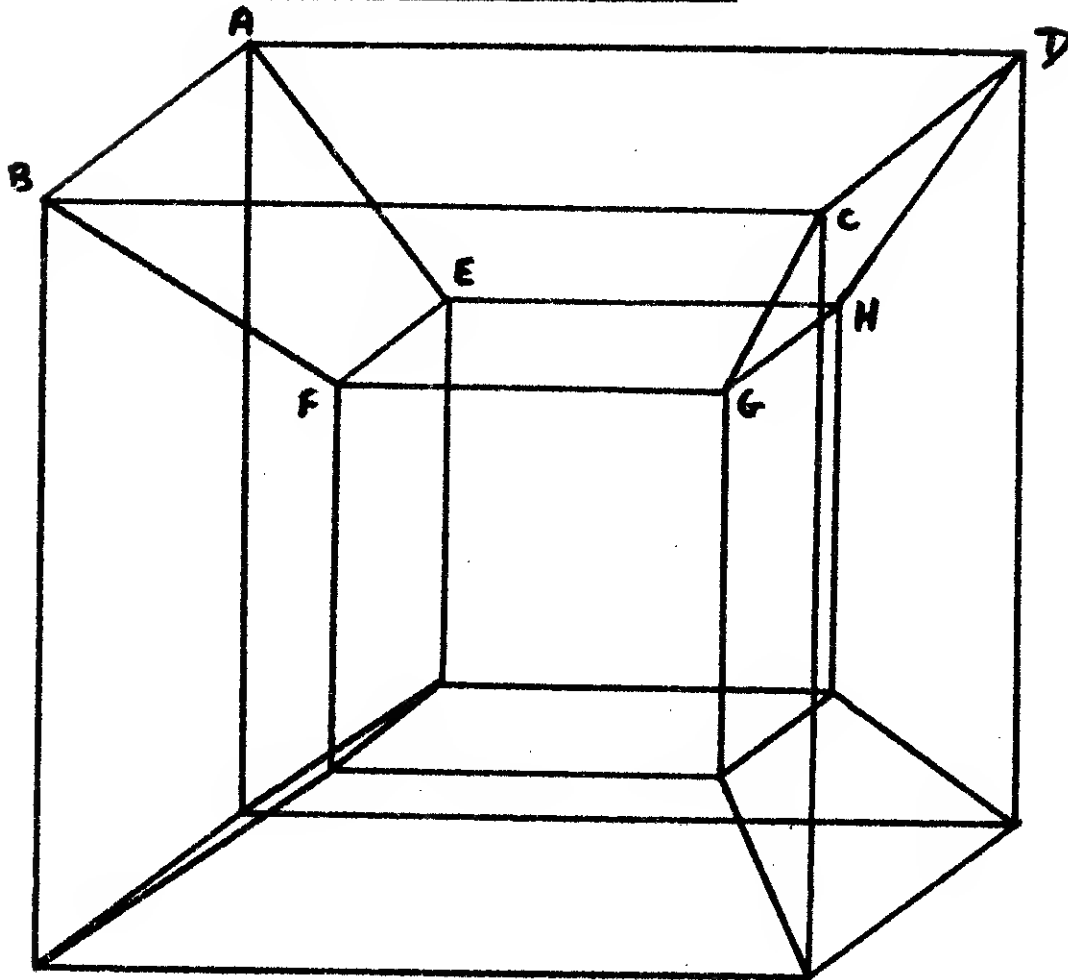
BERGAN FLOSHIPISH,

Planet Y-Alpha Complex.

Page 5.

Here we are, ladies, gentlemen and other readers. As promised in ALBION number 2, we proudly present one of the many two-dimensional representations of:-

THE FOUR-DIMENSIONAL HYPERCUBE.



It may reasonably be suggested that the editor's idea of perspective is not all that it might be. However it is hoped that the brief explanation which follows on page 6 will clarify the drawing to sceptical readers, and show that accurate perspective is not really so important in this context anyway.

Projections of 3-dimensional cubes have a habit of turning themselves inside out to the eye after more than a brief look. You'll go slightly nuts trying to do the same with this!

Two main things must be remembered when looking at the diagram of the hypercube:-

- 1) All angles should be right; one cannot draw a three-dimensional cube on a piece of paper without a distortion of most of the right angles, so the same is obviously true of the hypercube.
- 2) All edges should be of the same length; in the three-dimensional case, only some edges retain their true length if the laws of perspective are to be obeyed, and the same is once again true of the hypercube.

The above points should straighten out the thinking of those readers who have said - "It's just a small cube suspended by string inside a larger cube".

Come on now - be honest.

The hypercube has 8 cubical cells (remember that the outline ABCDEFGH is in reality a cube), 16 vertices, 24 faces and 32 edges. As to why this is the case, we may consider the following sequence of argument through the dimensions:-

A square in two dimensions has two opposite straight lines joined together by two straight lines.

A cube in three dimensions has two opposite squares joined together by four squares.

A hypercube in four dimensions has two opposite cubes joined together by six cubes. The two 'opposite' cubes are, of course, the large outer cube and the small inner cube.

The sequence is easy to follow; we could go a step further and say that a hypercube in five dimensions has two four-dimensional hypercubes joined together by eight four-dimensional hypercubes. Since the four-dimensional hypercube has been called a tesseract, I suppose we should call our latest creation the penteract.

Note that the ALBION staff hereby promises that at no time will it endeavour to represent the penteract in its pages.

A short note on time.

It has become fashionable in some circles to talk of 'time' as the fourth dimension. Certainly, as we shall see when we recount the further adventures of the Tweedle family in the following pages, time can be a fourth dimension, and perhaps this is the easiest for us to visualise. However it is not the only possible fourth dimension - in fact there are an infinite number of them.

Leaving you to ponder this one, we now turn to the

Answers to questions in ALBION number 2.

1. Hypertweedle merely travelled along another dimension until outside the cell walls. He then moved a short distance at right angles to that dimension (any of the three directions would do) and came back parallel to his original path. He thus arrived outside his cell within a few feet of the amazed guards. The latter have never been the same since, it is our unpleasant duty to record.

2. Many readers have pointed out that this was an unfair question, since it depends for its answer on the future of the story, and I am writing the story. OK, I agree, and hereby excise it from the competition.

What's that - you never knew it was a competition???

3. No. The tutor asked Hypertweedle for the facts, then passed them on to the king as his own. (This is, of course, a common habit among schoolteachers). The overjoyed king, to show his gratitude, gave the tutor the hand of his spotty daughter in marriage, whereupon the tutor took up wargaming (as everyone knows, this is the activity most likely to produce a swift divorce).

Results of the competition.

No completely correct entry was received. I therefore award the prize to myself.

Anyone wishing to view the prize (a life-sized model of Raquel Welch) should apply in writing to the ALBION offices, enclosing a large denomination postal order made out to ALBION OFFICES ADORNMENT FUND.

Adventures of Hypertweedle.

(Part 2).

Winter drew nigh in the kingdom, and the king, in a fit of generosity, ordered his Grand Vizier to issue gloves to the prisoners.

Tweedledum was no problem, of course. The king found that any size of glove would envelop Dum completely, which he regarded as a very fine state of affairs. (The king was human, you see, and humans like to cover up their errors). However Dee and Three caused something of a problem.

The Grand Vizier was, you see, a thoroughly nasty piece of work, as if you hadn't already guessed. His had been the task of constructing the prison cells in the first place, and the king had not been very pleased when Hypertweedle continually escaped. The Grand Vizier, therefore, under imminent de-valuation to Petit Vizier, was determined to get his revenge on the Tweedle family.

He therefore issued two left-handed two-dimensional gloves to Dee, and two right-handed three-dimensional gloves to Three. He then left the prison, twiddling his waxed moustache and uttering bellows of fiendish laughter.

Dum was therefore warm enough, but completely out of sight. Dee and Three were rather uncomfortable, with one glove off and one glove on, diddle diddle dumpling my son John. (With apologies to Rod Walker, who is perhaps the only one to know why I am apologising).

Although Three had seen a solution to Dee's problem, he maintained his silence, on the very common human principle that he was damned if he was going to help anyone else unless he got help in turn.

One of the guards had taken pity on the shivering Dee; he took the extra glove out of the cell, turned it over, and returned it to Dee. Miracle! The glove was now right-handed.

No-one realised that the same could be done to the extra glove in Three's cell by turning it over in a fourth dimension; anyway Hypertweedle was the only member of the family who could do this, and he was.....

in the palace, explaining his escape to the tutor.

"I could have used time as the fourth dimension", he said.

"In that case I would merely have moved back in time until I reached an instant before the cell was built; then I could have stepped outside the cell area, and returned in time to the present".

"But you say you didn't use time", blathered the tutor.

"Why should I?" replied Hypertweedle, "with so many other dimensions to choose from?"

"Corblimey", replied the tutor, sagely, making inefficient shorthand notes on his sleeve, for garbled presentation to the king at some convenient opportunity.

Hypertweedle soon tired of this nonsense (in common with many readers of his saga, I warrant), and left to pay his brothers a visit in their prison.

Arriving there, he soon realised the tragic predicament of his brother Three and set the matter to rights. Of course, Three forgot to thank his saviour, but that was, after all, only to be expected.

Hypertweedle then left the prison again, intent on scouring the palace for a comely serving wench.

(Have you ever thought, dear reader, of the advantages of control over four-dimensions when searching for serving wenches, comely or otherwise??)

On his journey, he happened to be passing by the door to the Grand Vizier's suite when the latter stepped out, gave him a friendly smile, and asked him in for a cup of tea. Hypertweedle naturally accepted, and entered the suite all innocent of the evil-doings afoot.

Next Issue:- The Most Foul Murder Plot.

Do not miss this magnificent episode.

REPORT.

ALBION 69/1.

Winter 1901.

Austria builds.....A(Bud).
 France builds.....A(Par), F(Bre).
 Germany builds.....A(Mun), F(Kie).
 Italy builds.....F(Nap).
 Russia builds.....A(Mos), F(StP-NC).
 Turkey builds.....A(Ank), F(Smy).

Spring 1902.

The moves:-

Austria (Nethercot): A(Vie)-Tyr, E(Tri)-Ven,
A(Ser)-AEN, A(Bed) stands.
 England (Munro): F(MWG) C A(Edi)-Nor, A(Edi)-Nor,
F(NH) stands.
 France (Watson): F(Pon)-Spe-NC, F(Bre)-ENC,
A(Par)-Pic, A(Bel) stands,
A(Bur) S A(Bel).
 Germany (Newcombe): A(Hol)-Bel, A(Mun)-Bur,
A(Sil)-Pru, F(Kie)-BAL,
F(Den)-Ska.
 Italy (Robertson): F(Tm)-IOS, F(Nap)-Apu,
A(Tyr)-Tri, A(Wen) S A(Tyr)-Tri.
 Russia (Hancock): A(War) stands, F(Rum) stands,
A(Mos)-Liv, F(Goh) S A(Swe),
F(StP-NC)-Nor, A(Swe) S F(StP-NC)-Nor.
 Turkey (Wood): F(Bul-SC)-AES, A(Con)-Bul,
A(Ank)-Con, A(Ore) stands,
F(Smy)-EMS.

Notation:- S=Supports. C=convoys. Underlined moves fail.
ENC=English Channel, BAL=Baltic,
IOS=Ionian, AES=Aegean, EMS=Eastern Med.

Retreats:- none.

Deadline for Winter 1902 orders:

September 5th.

A letter to the editor.

Sir,

We of the Tyrolean Dance Society (Great Bending Branch) wish to record our protest. It is such a shame that all those lovely people should be upset by the nasty Italians. This Society has done wonderful work in furthering the cause of Tyrolean art and Austrian culture.

We intend to leave no stone unturned. The Tyrol must be returned to Austria.

Yours,

Cornelia Ponsonby-Luxford-Jones O.B.E. (Dame).

A warning.

The indomitable ALBION press-hounds have once more succeeded in discovering another example of the French art-nouveau. This particular discovery has been reproduced on a following page of this issue for your enlightenment.

However you will notice that the fiendish French have so contrived their latest product that we are forced to print it upside down.

We are sure this represents no comment on the moral standing of ALBION and its staff.

PRESS RELEASES.

'All at sea with the German Navy' - the Vienna Times Naval Expert.

I am writing on the quarterdeck of the Hindenberg, pride of the German Navy. The sun is shining and all looks well with the world. The captain and his officers have been entertaining a party of distinguished visitors recently arrived from Copenhagen. I can hear the merry-making through the porthole which divides the Admiral's day cabin from my less luxurious quarters.

We have in fact made a good crossing from the Kiel naval base. Your naval expert understands that the crew are, at this moment, enjoying themselves ashore, inspecting the delights of our good neighbours capital city. All is fun and frolic - never have we seen such enthusiasm - the last liberty boat left the side well loaded with merry tars and jaunty officers. The attendant Marines are fully prepared to deal with what ever situation may develop later tonight.

'Slackness in Silesia' - the Vienna Times Military Expert.

Yes, there has been some fraternisation. We have in fact seen a pair of in more than one haversack. Not only have the Russians come prepared for war, they believe in the presence of home comforts as well. Share and share alike - what better way to cement relations? We have no hesitation in stating that the German forces here are most certainly not going to do anything drastic; in fact the reverse is more likely. Several senior officers frankly admit that their

forces couldn't fight a rifle-pooling, let alone the Russian army. Most of the equipment is modern and up to date, and polished with true Teutonic warve and vigour. It would be as well for our dear Emperor to take to terms with our brothers, otherwise he could be in serious trouble.

Army of Trieste - despatch from H.Q.

Heavy fighting has continued along the entire front. The enemy offensive has been halted with serious losses to both sides. The country is well suited to defence and any major breakthrough is unlikely unless one side receives massive reinforcements.

Our Naval and Marine units continue to threaten the Italian forces protecting Venice. Several small mountain villages have changed hands during the past 48 hours, but in no case have our positions been breached. Over one thousand Italian have been captured, two destroyers sunk, and a quantity of assorted odds and ends litter the rear areas. All enquiries regarding surplus equipment must be referred to the commanding General.

From 'The Belgrade Times'.

With banners flying the Second Austrian Cavalry Division entered Belgrade this morning. Before dawn sporadic fighting had broken out between Serbian units guarding the Royal Palace and subversive elements now known to have been trained and armed by the Italian Government. At the same time, units of the Russian Fleet and Turkish army occupied Bulgaria and Rumania, in answer to urgent requests for assistance from the Governments concerned.

Captured documents prove that a well co-ordinated plot to overthrow the legitimate regimes of Greece, Rumania, Serbia and Bulgaria has been instigated by the Italian Secret Service. A number of agents are in custody and are expected to stand trial in the course of the next few weeks. An air of calm now pervades the Serbian capital. The streets are safe for its citizens to go about their normal business in peace, without fear of attack.

New York Times Special Correspondent - Cable received Vienna.

Tears streaming down her face, an aged peasant woman collapsed in the street outside my hotel. She had tracked across the border with thousands of her fellow countrymen, fleeing from the Italian invasion. Refugees are pouring into Ljubljana and Trieste, presenting the Austrian authorities with a mounting problem. Food and medical supplies are urgently required. Reports of Italian atrocities towards the civilian population are not as yet substantiated; the Red Cross are seeking assurances that the invaders will respect their undertakings to abide by the terms of the Geneva agreement.

In this sort of situation the air is thick with rumour, charge

and counter-charge, but whatever might be written by either side on the page of history, there can be no possible doubt that the Italians are the aggressors. One can judge this from the chaotic state of the civil administration which was caught completely unawares by the attack. This is perhaps the reason why public opinion is solidly behind the Austrian Government. Even the children of Italian-speaking parents can be heard shouting 'LONG LIVE THE EMPEROR!' The Austrian army admits to being taken off its guard. However the military situation seems to be under control. (censored) deeply shocked. (At this point communications were cut).

Extract from the Times of London, received Vienna.

....., regarding the Italian invasion of Austrian Tyrol there is no doubt that this is the last gasp of a desperate and strife-ridden regime. For many months the internal situation in the Italian peninsula has pointed towards anarchy and revolution. The launching of a military adventure should be viewed as an attempt to unite the country in a common and popular cause.

Although there may be a short-term political gain, the long-term international loss will certainly be to the disadvantage of the present Italian rulers.

The Lollobrigida administration has been unfortunate in its choice of political bedfellows. The Right Wing General Mischanco can be blamed for instigating the disastrous Balkan Black Hand fiasco, whilst on the Left, Orlando Creamaicers' Red Brotherhood and Organisations Granpaianaso never ceases to inflame populist elements among the less well paid urban artisans.

In the countryside the widespread distaste of aristocratic influence has led to an outbreak of wine defilment and a sharp drop in the production of spaghetti. The pasta situation is now known to have deteriorated to such an extent that large quantities of virgin macaroni are being dumped in market squares throughout the northern provinces.

The British Government have been somewhat dilatory in maintaining Imperial influence in these troubled times. There appears to be some lack of confidence at cabinet level. But the writer understands on good authority that the Austrian Royal House is seeking to influence public opinion here in support of its cause.

Arthur Swaine Custard - Diplomatic Correspondent.

Vienna.

Opinion here is somewhat taken aback by the most peculiar statements coming from Rome. We know for a fact that Count Lollobrigida's fondness for animals would not permit him to equate ravaging etc. with bears. Any zoo keeper will tell you that bears, subject to certain exceptions, are most kindly and friendly animals. We know that our Russian friends delight in

Vienna (contd).

the good things of life - that their soldiers could carry on in such a manner just doesn't add up. Dare we suggest therefore that a pinch of salt be taken?

Now, French frogs' legs are world famous. How could anyone dare to suggest otherwise? An Italian couldn't tell the difference between a frog's leg and an ant's eye. No, we can't accept this at all.

We are at a loss to understand why Rome should go out of its way to be so rude to everyone. Take England; there they are, miles away, just sailing around in the northern oceans. Yet we read that they 'slumber on' etc. etc. For some reason, best known to themselves, the Italians seem determined to put everyone's back up. The quite unexpected and ruthless invasion of the Tyrol proves our point - you can't trust them one jot. 99.9% votes cast in favour, 0.1% against - where have we seen such figures before? Slave labour, trebled taxes - what a terrible story.

I suggest we look at Tunis. How much of that city remains? Do we know that over three thousand women and children died as a direct result of the Italian bombardment? Our friends the Turks substantiate reports of this completely fiendish assault on a neutral country.

We have already reported at some length on the reasons for the sudden outbreak of Italian madness. It is now obvious that extreme measures will have to be taken to bring these outcasts to heel.

Constantinople.

With several new 20,000 ton battleships entering service with the Eastern Mediterranean Fleet, our Sultan-A is reported to have given secret orders to Abdul-C (Admiral of the Fleet) with regard to any situation where Italian warships may be encountered. The necessity of this decision stems from the recent report from Rome outlining their policy of aggression against Turkish warships. The opinion in this country is that our beloved Sultan-A must be commended on his restraint regarding these outlandish Italian provocations. The only known retaliation by our Sultan-A was the removal and deportation of both his Italian wives from the Royal Harem. They have been replaced by two wives from our newly acquired ally, Greece.

The hinted visit of the Russian Ambassador to Constantinople (outlined in the communication from Moscow) is reported to have taken place. Our Leader listened with interest to the European policy of the Russian cabinet, and it is understood from official sources that amiable agreement was reached on several vital issues. It is not known whether any pacts or treaties were signed by the two countries.

Our new allies, Bulgaria and Greece, being afraid of eventual Italian invasion, in fact implored Turkey to protect their respective countries and encouraged the occupation by the

Constantinople (contd).

elite Turkish armies. As a result, unlike the typical invasion of the Tyrol by the Roman barbarians, a peaceful occupation has taken place, with soldiers and civilians living in very close harmony. Another boat load of Grecian women volunteers is on its way to Turkish harems at this moment.

From the Nana, the independent newspaper of Turkey.

Rome.

Yesterday, the Italian Government announced that an agreement of mutual support and defence had been concluded with the Turkish Ambassador, and, as a result, the menaces of the Germanic-Austrian alliances would be forced to come to a halt. The two nations have simultaneously sent a warning to the two countries, to the effect that, if the border incidents do not immediately cease, Italy and Turkey would have no other course but to defend themselves.

It has been reported that the German border patrols have crossed into Italian territory on numerous occasions, and have opened fire three times, killing a number of our gallant soldiers.

A stern note has also been handed to the French Ambassador, Mme Mathieu, warning the French Government not to move troops or naval forces near the Italian border. Mme Mathieu, who has kept an open (and disorderly) house in Rome for the past three years, has recently been awarded the Most Noble Order of the Garter for her services to the Italian Cabinet.

However, rumour has it that certain State secrets have been reaching the ears of the French Government, and a mammoth spy-hunt is now in progress. The master spy is expected to be apprehended within a few days.

Giovanni Lollobrigida.

Berlin.

In view of the prevalent militarist sentiments which seem to be sweeping all the European powers, the Kaiser has determined that the only way to secure the German Fatherland is to push its frontiers outwards. Thus, any enemy will have to begin fighting before reaching German soil. To this end, we have already liberated Denmark and Holland from the anarchy of independence and self-government, and it is now our intention to free the Belgians from the French yoke, thus coming into the true freedom of the German Reich.

We note with amusement the Italian excursion to North Africa, and trust that the terrain is more suitable for conquest by their indolent conscripts than that of the Tyrolean Alps.

Bulow.

Moscow.

The Russian Press is silent - no news has reached the Central Press Agency of ALBION.

London.

British troops are to land in Norway to safeguard Norwegian interests in the present conflict.

Paris.

EUROPE WARNS THE SWISS.

A stern warning has been handed to the Swiss Government in a joint statement issued by the heads of all the European Governments. This unprecedented move was caused by the change in format of the second issue of ALBION, the allegedly world-wide newspaper, edited by that unscrupulous hobbit, D.J. Turnbull. For no apparent reason, this trouble-maker has taken it upon himself to insert a lot of four-dimensional twaddle in an effort to confuse the minions of the world. To make matters worse, this subversive literature has been inserted before the press releases, which of course is a direct insult to every European nation.

Units from Germany, Austria and Italy are said to be forming in Tyrolia ready to be sent in to bring this evil hobbit to heel. France has units standing by in Burgandy to support them.

It seems that even the worst of antagonists can unite in the face of such threats. One Prussian officer in the French dominion of Berlin was heard to comment:- "Mein Gott, iv zeess beekums ein reggular hobbit, mit der fower dimenshinal hobbit, ower vundervul roolsr, Keizar Wilhelm, vil tell heem two hobbit, zee bumshus sweinhund".

For those of you who don't know what a hobbit is, a description will be given in a later issue of ALBION - maybe.

THE RAPE OF HOLLAND.

Once again the Kaiser has unleashed his war dogs on a defenceless country, this time Holland.

Despite numerous warnings from France, Germany today invaded the French protectorates of Holland. Perhaps the Kaiser thinks that France will shrink before his sabre-rattling hordes, but this is not so. Too often in the past has Germany plundered unchecked, but this time the Hun has gone too far. French units in Belgium and Burgandy have been put on stand-by, and war is now certain unless Germany withdraws immediately.

In response to an appeal from H.M. Government in London, the French Second Fleet has sailed from Brsst and sortied into the English Channel, this to meet the double threat from German fleets in occupied Denmark and Kiel.

As usual my illustrious uncle, Charles De Gaul, Emperor of all France, Marshall of Portugal, Saviour of Belgium, Liberator of Holland and Duke of Berlin is in close contact with all friendly Governments on the subject of power-mad Germany and is vetting the numerous suggestions put to him.

Paris (contd).

RUSSIA ENTERS SWEDEN.

In accordance with a request by the Swedish Government, Russian troops were shipped into Stockholm to act as a deterrent to Germany. As previously reported, the Tzar is anxious about German policy in this area, so close to Russian soil. It is also interesting to note that a Russian fleet has been built in the far North. It can only be assumed that this has been ordered to sail for Norway, Sweden's neighbour, a move which must be hotly disputed by England.

FRENCH ARMY UNITS ENTER BELGIUM.

Elements of the French Imperial Guard have entered Brussels amidst cheering crowds. These units have been sent to Belgium at the request of the Belgian King, Fred De Gaul, who is extremely worried about the international situation. King Fred has revealed that his Secret Service have unveiled a plot by Germany to cause chaos and insurrection in Belgium prior to their invading it. King Fred seemed extremely excited about the whole affair, as for five minutes prior to receiving the French commander he was perceived to have leapt regally from one foot to the other chanting a weird incantation. On the arrival of the French commander, one Humphrey De Gaul, King Fred grasped him by the hand, snatched away the unsigned treaty with the words "Just in time, mon ami", and made a dash for his throne, relief written all over his face.

ITALY INSULTS FRANCE.

French Government officials have been expressing fury and indignation at the claims made by Italy regarding the origin of the renowned French delicacies champagne, snails and frogs' legs. The claims that the currying Giovanni Lollobrigida made on behalf of his effeminate ruler Victor Espaniel the Whatsit have caused our wonderful Father of France Charles De Gaul to wonder if this is an attempt to take people's minds off the despicable deeds perpetrated in Tyrolia by Italian occupation forces.

A relief fund has been set up in Paris to raise enough money to recompense Alex Wintergreen, that world-famous pig-minder, for his recent losses, i.e. one herd of underfed pigs, one grandmother clock, one noddy tooth brush and a pair of pink spotted long johns. It is hoped that Alex can have a fresh start in life.

FRENCH FISHING FLEET IN PORTUGAL.

A French fishing fleet put into Lisbon harbour to shelter from a threatening storm. All were made welcome by the local inhabitants, some of whom said that these were indeed the strangest fishing vessels they had ever seen. When it was explained that the enormous metal rods protruding from the sides of the ships were in fact the latest in stainless steel fishing rods, the Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Percy De Gaul, was inundated with orders for them by the locals. It is understood that the Fleet sets sail for Spain soon to land a catch of the best Portuguese sardines.

Paris (contd).

RUSSIA INSULTS FRENCH TECHNOLOGY.

It has been noted in Government sources that the official Tzarist newspaper, *Is-Straevnik*, has questioned the existence of the F.A.R.C.E. (French Air Reconnaissance Corps - Experimental). This of course is a most unfortunate occurrence as until now relations between France and Russia have been first class. However should the Russian Press continue to pursue this policy, then it is quite possible that the French Government will have to review their own policy towards Russia.

TURKEY THE SILENT.

The uncanny silence which has, until now, hung over the Turkish Press has at last been broken in a tirade of abuse on the Christian civilisation. Having read the statements, our foreign observers are surprised that they bothered to break that silence. Perhaps the fact that each copy of their paper has to be hand-carried by ignorant peasants would account for the incoherent jumble therein. As for Turkey's claims of peace and brotherhood - Greece and Bulgaria will disprove that. The most amusing part of this farcical press release must be Turkey's statement that 'she was not prepared to enter into petty squabbles'. The truth of the matter is of course that she wishes to expand silently, thus hoping to avoid the limelight whilst honest Christian nations like ourselves endeavour to maintain peace in Europe. With the amount of time Sultan-A spends in his harem, it is no wonder he is called 'The Sick Man of Europe'.

For once we must join with our Germanic and Italian neighbours in condemning this most heathen of all heathen races.

EDITORIAL COMMENT FROM THE FRENCH PRESS.

The editor of the French International Press would like to thank one and all for the cold reception given to our latest innovation, the Loospaper. Another example of our work has been submitted to the editor of ALBION for possible inclusion.

Malcolm De Gaul.

Comment from the ALBION editor.

The Press Agencies of all countries are, of course, welcome to submit releases for printing in ALBION, subject to the conditions already laid down. However we would make a plea to all authors to clearly distinguish between news items, for release in current game reports, and other items not related to ALBION games. Items coming under the latter heading will, naturally be welcome providing they are not submitted under the guise of a game press report. The discretion of the editor will be used to separate such items in future.

MISCELLANY.

New Subscriber.

Too late for inclusion on an earlier page. Add to the ALBION subscription list:-
Harry Tucker, 22 Salisbury Road, Seaford, Sussex, England.

British subscribers.

The following subscriptions have been received from players and other subscribers in the British Isles. Overseas subscribers will receive a similar statement in a later issue, when I have found out just how much it is costing.

Michael Nethercot. Game fee plus 12 issues.
Chris Hancock. Game fee plus 5 issues.
Ray Evans. 12 issues plus 3d. surplus.
John Robertson. Game fee plus 20 issues.
Colin Newcombe. Game fee. Copies distributed by hand.
Malcolm Watson. Game fee. Copies distributed by hand.
John Munro. Game fee plus 14 issues plus 3d. surplus.
David Wood. Game fee plus 10 issues.
Harry Tucker. 6 issues.

All the above have received three issues.

Interesting to note the confidence (or lack of it) shown by various players in ALBION 69/1.....

Parlement.

The revised rules for this fascinating game of political conflict are now available and are being distributed in the British Isles by yours truly. Copies are available for the meagre sum of 6/-, inclusive of postage.

Orders for the rules have already been received from Michael Nethercot and David Wood, who are getting their copies as of this envelope.

Diplomacy fans will, I am sure, be very interested in this new game, invented by Charles Wells. If the response for the rules is sufficient, I hope that ALBION may carry a Parlement game sometime in the future. Seven players are needed, and I only have nine copies left, so hurry hurry!

Further Diplomacy games - policy.

ALBION is, of course, open to expansion. I would like to carry another Diplomacy game sometime, when another seven players are available. Players in the current game may, of course, elect to join in the second, but on the whole it would be nice to have another seven involved. So spread the word, folks - there may be hundreds of Diplomacy players in England. Perish the thought - there should be other ALBIONS!

ANOTHER LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Villa Del Marco, Italia.

Meine Papa,

Plis Not to be vorried. Ven i out den sellar Krept, our peegs to look for, ze gallant and brav Italy soljers, zey find mich.

I bin having vunderbar time, und hier ist 500 DM vich i save from meine earnings in Italy. Sell verdammed peegs und commen hier.

Italy ver' goot. Death to the Autrichs, long live Italy soljers und pipple.

Your loffing dorter,

Narin-Doncella Wintergreen.

The editor likes to think that ALBION is achieving some considerable status as an organ for family reconciliation. Further issues may very well carry an Aunt Edith page.

If YOU have problems, let Aunt Edith solve them with tact, sympathy, soothing words and a small amount of money, to be sent with your problem.

A REQUEST.

The ALBION editorial staff always attempt to publish the magazine as near to the game deadline date as possible. This is achieved by typing many of the items well before the deadline, in an effort to minimise the work around the actual deadline date.

It will be of considerable assistance, therefore, if any contributor to the pages of ALBION would send his article etc. well in advance of the next deadline. This request does not, of course, apply to press releases from players, since countries may wish to change these at the last moment.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

ALBION number three ends.....here.

